depends on a number of factors like local conditions, cost of living and paying capacity, which varies from State to State and from Industry to Industry, it has not been found feasible to maintain uniformity in wages all over the country. The Indian Labour Conference, held in November 1985 expressed that "Till such time a national wage is feasible, it would be desirable to have regional minimum wages in regard to which the Central Government may lay down the guideline. The minimum wages should be revised at regular periodicity and should be linked with rise in the cost of living." Accordingly, the Government issued guidelines in July, 1987 for setting up of Regional Minimum Wages Advisory Committees. These Committees renamed subsequently as Regional Labour Ministers' Conferences, made a number of recommendations which include reduction in disparities in minimum wages in different States of a region, setting up of Inter-State Coordination Council and consultation with neighbouring States while fixing/revising minimum wages. In the absence of National Wage Policy, the Central Government introduced National Floor Level Minimum Wage, on the basis of the recommendations of the National Commission on Rural Labour. Presently the Floor Level Minimum Wage has been fixed at Rs. 45/- per day due to increase in the Consumer Price Index Number.

The Beedi & Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 has been enacted by the Government to regulate working conditions and employment terms of Beedi & Cigar workers. This Act is enforced by the State Governments. The State Governments have framed corresponding Rules under this Act to enforce various provisions of the Act. The State Governments are advised from time to time to strictly enforce the provisions of the above concerned labour laws.

Irregularities in ITIs

†249. DR. A. K. PATEL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that a lot of irregularities are being committed at the time of admissions being made in various trades in I.T.Is in Delhi;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is also a fact that the students have to make payment of an additional amount to the touts while seeking three-year apprentice course in the said institutions;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the names of various companies appears on the papers only at the time of admission in the said course of the institutions; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to enquire into the said episode keeping in view the career of the students ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) As per the information received from Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, the admission in various trades in Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) in Delhi are strictly based on the merit of marks obtained by the candidates in their respective School/Board examinations. No irregularities in admission have been observed.

(b) to (d) ITIs in Delhi do not offer any course under Apprenticeship Training Scheme. Apprentices are selected by the respective establishments.

Setting up of workers' board

250. DR. ABRAR AHMED : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the second National Labour Commission in its report submitted to Government recently has suggested setting up of workers' board at grass root level for the unorganized sector to ensure minimum wages, legal protection and social security to workers;

(b) if so, what are the other salient features of the report; and